GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:742
ANSWERED ON:28.04.2016
Implementation of Panchayats Act
Venugopal Dr. Ponnusamy

Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

be pleased to state whether the Government has taken any steps for the faster implementation of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act by States for the uplift of tribals, if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
(SHRI NIHAL CHAND)

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj has taken following steps for faster implementation of the Provisions of the Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (PESA) by States for the upliftment of tribals:-

1. Under Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan(RGPSA), the Fifth Schedule Areas are assisted financially to help in maximum participation of members of Gram Sabha and its decision making process by making provisions for Gram Sabha Mobilisers, PESA Coordinators for block and district Panchayats and for arranging orientation programmes.

2. The Ministry organized One-day State-level Workshops in the States having Fifth Scheduled Areas during 2014-15 to give a fillip to the implementation of PESA and improve the level of awareness on the subject among the representatives of PRIs and other stakeholders. The Workshop, aimed to bring an interface between the Government and other stakeholders, was attended by senior officers from line departments of the State and district officials, elected representatives, NGOs and advocacy organizations.
3. A Handbook on "Community Mobilisation" in Fifth Schedule Areas, containing basic information about the provisions of PESA, methods of community mobilization and role of Gram Sabha/community mobilisers and PESA coordinators has been released.

4. A National Workshop was organized at New Delhi on February 4-5, 2016 to review the progress of implementation of PESA in States, issues and challenges being faced and the way forward. The workshop was attended by the Ministers of Panchayati Raj and Tribal Welfare Departments of the States besides Secretaries of these departments, officials of Union Ministries and other stakeholders.

5. A National Meeting of Tribal Women Presidents of Gram Panchayats of Fifth Schedule Areas was held at Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh on April 19, 2016 on their role in the development of Fifth Scheduled Areas. The meeting was attended by Tribal women Sarpanches and officials from the States having Fifth Schedule Areas.

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